

SECRET

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63-7681

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9 October 1963

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Senate Foreign Relations Hearing with Secretary Rusk
and Mr. Bell, 9 October 1963

1. Mr. Lee Miller of AID was present at the subject hearing and took notes. In connection with interagency relationships in South Viet-nam, he said Secretary Rusk made a clear difference between recommendations and estimates on the one hand and the role played by agencies on execution of policy on the other hand. He said he would expect differences in recommendations and estimates and would wonder what was wrong if he did not get them. On the roles played by departments and agencies, including CIA, he had no evidence of any refusal to carry out policy. He knew of no dramatic confrontations between CIA and the Ambassador or anyone else and knew of no bitterness between agencies. He also said there could be no "Seven Days in May" in South Viet-nam. He stated that CIA does not make policy and the President is in control of CIA. The Secretary pointed out that he is represented on committees which coordinate actions of CIA among others and that he had no knowledge of any defiance or any problems in execution of directives.

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3. Commenting on the news reporting for South Viet-nam, Secretary Rusk recalled his own experience in the China-Burma-India theater during the war when they were very low down on the totem pole and felt unable to get anything done, and their frustrations were taken out by everyone in griping and complaining. He said he had never heard of any acts of undiscipline by CIA, and insofar as the general situation was concerned we cannot quit in South Viet-nam and we cannot take over; therefore, we have to follow a middle ground

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4. Bell, commenting on Haberman's article in The New York Times of 8 October that the Administration was dragging its feet said they were reviewing policy as to the best action that can be taken with the regime.

5. The questions then turned to U. S. policy and aid to Indonesia and Iran and indicated that they might ask the Director questions on the Bosch overturn in the Dominican Republic and the takeover in Honduras. On these points, Assistant Secretary Martin has already given a minute-by-minute account of the information received. Secretary Rusk goes back to the Committee on Friday for testimony in connection with the military aid program in Latin America. The Committee may very well query the Director on some of the trouble spots in connection with the Latin American situation.

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LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

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TO: Mr. Larry Houston		
ROOM NO. 7 D 01	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
FROM: W. Elder		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8
WHICH MAY BE USED.

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